"The Heart"

COMMITTED TO CHRIST AND

DIGNITY/SACRAMENTO

THE GAY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

PHONE: (916) 441-0427

VOL.15, No 2

JUNE 1990

FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HUGE SUCCESS

Dignity remembered 15 years of service to the Sacramento community with a celebratory mass on May 13th at St. Francis church. Our chaplains, Fathers Joe and Jim were joined by a special celebrant for the anniversary mass. In conjunction with a large attendance by members, friends, and families of Dignity/Sacramento, the involvement of members of other Dignity chapters and presence of Stan Lewis, Region IX Director, made for a joyous, if somewhat crowded, service. Following mass in the chapel, the celebration continued with refreshments and a socializing in the recreation hall.

The Steering Committee extends thanks to all those who helped make this event such a big success.

POSSIBLE DIALOGUE

Pat Roche, President of Dignity/U.S.A, has received a positive, although reserved, response to his April 3 request to Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk, President of the National College of Catholic Bishops, asking for "dialogue on important matters of grave concern to gay and lesbian Catholics."

In a response last week, the Archbishop expressed "many reservations" about such a meeting but nonetheless said "I am open to the possibility of such a meeting but only after you have first met with the General Secretary of the conference," in order to determine "in advance ...the goals and objectives of any such meeting," and "the realistic expectations of Dignity concerning the outcome from such a meeting."

Roche noted that he is encouraged that a door has been opened, however tentatively, to possible dialogue on important issues.

A Message From Our Regional Director

Dear Members and Friends of Dignity/Sacramento:

I am very happy to have the opportunity to greet you as your chapter celebrates fifteen years of service to the Sacramento community, and to extend congratulations on behalf of all your sisters and brothers in Region IX.

Dignity/Sacramento holds a special place in the hearts of all of us who are members of our organization and movement. You are unique in that you are specially blessed to serve in a diocese where love and compassion is demonstrated by Bishop Quinn, and the priests and religious who serve under him.

Those of us in other chapters look with longing at the fortunate situation you enjoy. But this can present a special challenge for you. The reality of our church is that throughout most of the United States our chapter face eviction and disdain from the hierarchy. Until all of us are treated with respect, love, and caring, none of us can afford to become complacent. We need the solidarity of all our chapters and all people of goodwill if Dignity is to help our church towards acceptance of Gay and Lesbian people.

Finally, I want to thank you for the warm welcome you gave me during my recent visit to your chapter, and to express all our gratitude to the members of the steering committee who have been working so hard to help Sacramento reorganize and grow.

May God Bless You All!

In Dignity,
STAN LEWIS
Regional Director
Region IX

DIGNITY/SACRAMENTO

STEERING COMMITTEE:

TOM CARROL
FRANK HARRISON
RON DRUM
DAVE VASSAR
TED E.
GRANT DUHON

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

TOM CARROL
GRANT DUHON
CHRIS W. (INTERIM)

CHAPLAINS:

FR. BARRY BRUNSMAN, O.F.M.
FR. JIM
FR. JOE

Articles and notices for publication are REQUESTED to be submitted by the 22nd of the month prior to publication. Mail to:

DIGNITY/Sacramento
P.O. Box 161765
Sacramento, Ca. 95816

THANKYOU

We once again have the opportunity to thank an anonymous donor. Dignity/Sacramento received another contribution, this one in the amount of one hundred dollars. Our sincere thanks for this donation!

SPECIAL OFFERING

The theme of the Gay and Lesbian Freedom celebration this year is "The Future Is Ours." Uniting with that theme, Dignity/USA is asking us to take up as special offering for the work of our national organization. We urge you to give generously to this offering as a sign of your commitment to justice in the Church through the work of Dignity. This special collection will be taken at the end of services on our June 10 meeting. Checks can be made payable to Dignity, Inc. Thank you for your support of Dignity/USA.

LAMBDA FREEDOM FAIR

The eleventh annual Lambda Freedom Fair takes place Saturday, June 16 from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Live entertainment starts at 11:00 AM with a variety of local talent gracing the stage. Last year more than 4000 people attended this event! Look for the DIGNITY/Sacramento booth: we will be hosting a fund-raiser raffle with spectacular prizes. SEE YOU THERE!

dignity

STATEMENT OF POSITION AND PURPOSE

We believe that gay and lesbian Catholics are members of Christ's mystical body, numbered among the people of God. We have an inherent dignity because God created us, Christ died for us, and the Holy Spirit sanctified us in baptism, making us temples of the spirit, and channels through which God's love might become visible. Because of this, it is our right, our privilege, and our duty to live the sacramental life of the Church, so that we might become more powerful instruments of God's love working among all people.

We believe that gay men and lesbian women can express their sexuality in a manner that is consonant with Christ's teachings. We believe that we can express our sexuality physically in a unitive manner that is loving, life giving, and life affirming. We believe that all sexuality should be exercised in an ethically responsible and unselfish way.

Dignity is organized to unite gay and lesbian Catholics, to develop leadership and to be an instrument through which we may be heard by the Church and society. To be such an organization, we must accept our responsibilities to the Church, to society, and to the individual gay and lesbian Catholic.

1. TO THE CHURCH: We work for the development of its sexual theology and for the acceptance of gay men and lesbian women as full and equal members of the one Christ.
2. TO SOCIETY: We work for justice and social acceptance through education and legal reforms.
3. TO INDIVIDUAL GAY AND LESBIAN CATHOLICS: We reinforce their sense of self-acceptance and dignity and encourage their full participation in the life of the Church and society.

STATEMENT OF POSITION AND PURPOSE

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

As members of Dignity, we promote causes of interest to gay and lesbian Catholics. We have five primary areas of concern.

1. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT: We strive to achieve Christian maturity through all the means at our disposal, especially the Mass, the sacraments, scripture, personal prayer, and active love of neighbor.
2. EDUCATION: We inform ourselves in all matters of faith as well as all the concerns of the gay and lesbian community so that we may develop the maturity of outlook needed to live fulfilling lives in which sexuality and spirituality are integrated, and to prepare us for service in the gay and lesbian community.
3. SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT: As Catholics and members of society, we involve ourselves in those activities that bring the love of Christ to others and to provide the basis of social reform. We are actively involved with:

    A. Individuals: We lead a life of service to others, rendering visible the love of Christ and assisting in the creation of a love-centered community.
    B. Gay and Lesbian Groups: We work with other groups to seek justice for gays and lesbians and to promote a sense of solidarity within the community.
    C. Religious and Secular Groups: We work with many groups and organizations so that their members might better understand gay men and lesbian women, and thus recognize present injustices.

4. FEMINIST ISSUES: We dedicate ourselves to the potential to become more fully human. To do this we must work towards eradication of all constraints on our personhood based on the ascribed social roles of women and men.

5. SOCIAL EVENTS: We provide activities of a social and recreational nature in an atmosphere where friendships can develop and mature and our sense of self-acceptance and dignity can be affirmed.

PAARC BENEFIT

The Performing Artists for AIDS Related Charities (PAARC) presents its third annual benefit performance, "Times," a four act musical variety show. Performances will be held at the 24th Street Theater, 2791 - 24th St. on Saturday, June 9th. Wine and Hors D'oevres will be available from 6:00 to 7:00 PM with showtime at 7:00 PM. Tickets are $15.00 per person both in advance and at the door. Advance tickets are available at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St.

THANKS TO FATHER BILL

Special thanks to Father Bill for presiding at our May 27th service. With our regular chaplains away or busy that day, Bill celebrated with us and offered to help out in the future if needed. We will take him up on that generous offer!

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON US!

WE ARE A GIFTED PEOPLE

An Invitation.... to join DIGNITY/Sacramento

Dignity/U.S.A. has provided over 20 years of service to the Gay and Lesbian Community. Dignity/Sacramento is incorporated under the laws of the State of California as a non-profit religious organization. We encourage your participation in our social activities and in our activities relating to:

SPRITUAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT FEMINIST ISSUES

NAME_____
ADDRESS_____
CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____
PHONE_____DATE_____
(All Information Kept Strictly Confidential)

- ☐ REGULAR MEMBERSHIP $30.00/YR
- ☐ COUPLES MEMBERSHIP 50.00/YR
- ☐ SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP 80.00/YR
- ☐ LOW INCOME MEMBERSHIP 23.00/YR
- ☐ SUBSCRIPTION TO "HEART" 6.00/YR

CLIP AND MAIL TO:
DIGNITY/SACRAMENTO,
P.O. BOX 161765, SACRAMENTO, CA. 95816

PHONE (916) 441-0427

JUNE 1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOURTH SUNDAY MEETING, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 24TH, HAS BEEN CANCELLED IN DEFERENCE TO THE GAY FREEDOM PARADE IN SAN FRANCISCO. WE URGE EVERYONE TO ATTEND THIS SPECTACULAR EVENT!					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 DIGNITY MEETS at 3:00 PM at St. Francis 26th & K Sts.	11	12	13	14	15	16 LAMBDA FREEDOM FAIR McKINLEY PARK 10AM-7PM
17	18	19	20	21	22 DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IN JULY ISSUE OF "THE HEART" (916)427-8441	23
24 NO DIGNITY MEETING TODAY GAY FREEDOM PARADE, S. F.	25	26	27	28	29	30

THE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1:00 PM AT ST. FRANCIS. WE ENCOURAGE ALL DIGNITY MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE. WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

From: ❤ ❤ ❤

P. O. Box 161765
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(ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED)

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